

COVID-19

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING



Thursday, August 13, 2020

CDC DIRECTOR: COMMIT TO FIGHTING COVID-19 OR RISK WORST FALL EVER

"For your country right now and for the war that we're in against COVID, I'm asking you to do four simple things. Wear a mask, social distance, wash your hands, and be smart about crowds. You do those four things, it will bring this outbreak down. But if we don't do that, as I said last April, this could be the worst fall from a public health perspective, we've ever had."

- **Dr. Robert Redfield, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS UP SLIGHTLY IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Initial regular unemployment claims were up 5% in Snohomish County compared to the previous week, while total claims statewide continued to dip, the state Employment Security Department reported Thursday.

CDC director: commit to fighting COVID-19 or risk worst fall ever

Dr. Robert Redfield, the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this week recorded an interview with WebMD. He offered an update on efforts to develop a vaccine against the virus that causes COVID-19 and spoke about the importance of getting a flu shot later this year. He also made this sobering observation:

"For your country right now and for the war that we're in against COVID, I'm asking you to do four simple things. Wear a mask, social distance, wash your hands, and be smart about crowds. You do those four things, it will bring this outbreak down. But if we don't do that, as I said last April, this could be the worst fall from a public health perspective, we've ever had."

For more information, see the [video and interview transcript](#).



Unemployment claims up slightly in Snohomish County

Initial regular unemployment claims were up 5% in Snohomish County compared to the previous week, while total claims statewide continued to dip, the state Employment Security Department reported Thursday.

During the week of Aug. 2 through Aug. 8, there were 22,140 initial regular unemployment claims statewide (down 11.4% from the prior week) and 571,410 total claims for all unemployment benefit categories (down 13.0% from the prior week) filed by Washingtonians, the state said.

Claims filed by people in Snohomish County rose from 2,899 to 3,040 during the same period.

Statewide, initial regular claims applications remain at elevated level, roughly triple what was seen at the same time last year.

The state paid out over \$273.8 million for 391,025 individual claims – a decrease of \$301.3 million and 53,583 less individuals compared to the prior week.

See the [full press release](#) for more information.



JOB SEARCH REQUIREMENT REMAINS SUSPENDED THROUGH SEPT. 1

The state job search requirement for unemployment benefit claimants remains suspended through Sept. 1.

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The state [job search requirement](#) for unemployment benefit claimants remains suspended through Sept. 1. Claimants may continue to answer “no” to the job search question on weekly claims until the suspension is lifted.

Claimants typically required to look for work and document at least three job search activities each week in order to remain eligible for unemployment benefits. As a result of the COVID-19 crisis, the Governor, with support from the Legislature, suspended this requirement on March 8 and the suspension has been extended several times since.


HEAT IS ON THE WAY. STAY SAFE!

It is critical to continue to wear face covers when near people outside your household, even when it's hot. You can take a safe break from your mask. Just make sure you are outside and at least six feet from others.

Heat on the way. Stay safe!

The [National Weather Service says](#) temperatures are expected to heat up for the end of the week into the weekend. The hottest day is expected Sunday with highs topping out in the upper 80s to 90.

With COVID-19 cases still climbing in the community, it is critical to continue to wear face covers when near people outside your household. You can take a safe break. Just make sure that you are outside and at least six feet from others. The state Department of Health's recent [blog post](#) offers tips and tricks for comfortably wearing face coverings.




Moderate to High Heat Risk


Sunday August 16th, 2020

What This Means
Heat like this happens **occasionally** to only a **few times each year**. Take precautions to avoid heat-related illnesses, especially if you are sensitive to heat.


What To Do




Hydrate



Dress for heat



Limit time outdoors



Check on elderly, kids & pets

Potential Heat Risk

Very Low Low Moderate High Very High

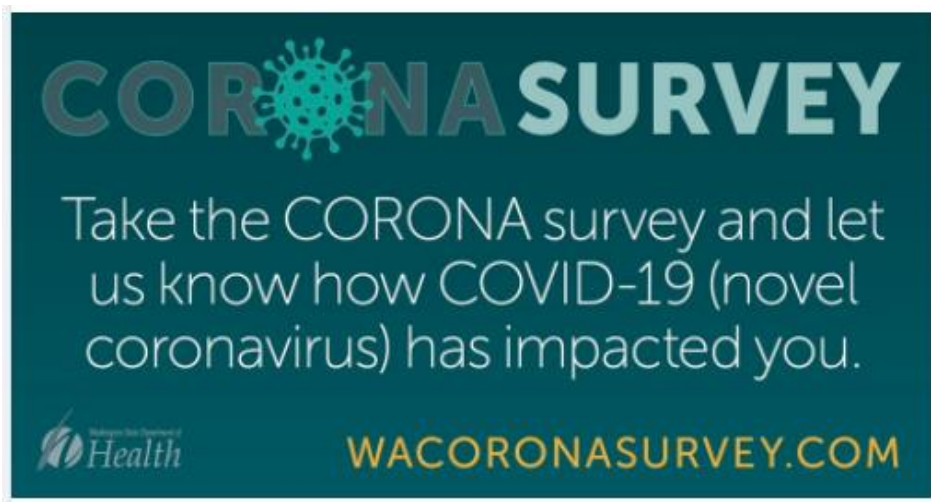
TAKE CORONAVIRUS SURVEY, GET CHANCE AT \$100 AMAZON GIFT CODE

Want to chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift code? Take a survey to tell the state Department of Health how COVID-19 has impacted you.

Take coronavirus survey, get chance at \$100 Amazon gift code

How has the novel coronavirus affected you and your family? Take the CORONA survey so to help the state better understand how COVID-19 has impacted you. And you could receive a \$100 Amazon gift code! (To take the survey by phone, call 855-530-5787— interpretative services are available.)

Go to the survey here: <http://wacoronasurvey.com/>



STATE CHANGING HOW IT REPORTS TESTING DATA

The state Department of Health announced COVID-19 testing data will soon be reported using the total number of tests completed. This is a change from the current reporting, which reflects the total number of unique individuals ever tested.

State changing how it reports testing data



The state Department of Health on Wednesday announced COVID-19 testing data will soon be reported using the total number of tests completed. This is a change from the current reporting, which reflects the total

number of unique individuals ever tested.

For example, someone who has a negative COVID-19 test result in May then another negative result in July would only be counted once in the current reporting approach. The most recent test would not be included. That means testing data does not fully reflect the actual testing volume or the current test positive rate, since only the first negative result for each person is included.

During this transition, the COVID-19 testing dashboards will not be updated and will show preliminary data through August 10 using the old methodology.

See the [full press release](#) for more information.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PUD WARNS OF NEW SCAM

Snohomish County PUD is warning of a new scam aimed at gaining access to your financial account information. If you are due a refund from the PUD, they would **NEVER** ask for account or banking information.

Snohomish County PUD warns of new scam

The PUD is [warning of a new scam](#).

“You may receive a phone call from someone claiming to be a PUD representative, claiming they are eligible for a refund because you were overcharged. You will be asked for your bank account number or credit card so the refund can be placed in your account or on your credit card. **THIS IS A SCAM** so that you will provide your financial information that the scammer can use for fraudulent purposes. If you are due a refund from the PUD, we will only contact you if a legitimate mailing address is not on file. That is the **ONLY** information the PUD would ask a customer for. We would **NEVER** ask for account or banking information.”



NEW #SCAM ALERT! You may receive a phone call from someone claiming to be a PUD representative, telling you that you are eligible for a refund, and requesting your bank account or credit card #. THIS IS A SCAM. [i : snopud.com/AboutUs/scams....](https://snopud.com/AboutUs/scams....)

Call us at 425-783-1000 to verify.



MORE THAN 100,000 IN WASHINGTON ADDED TO APPLE HEALTH DURING PANDEMIC

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, more than 100,000 residents have enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid).

More than 100,000 in Washington added to Apple Health during pandemic



Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, more than 100,000 Washington residents have enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid), our state's insurance program for

individuals with lower incomes. About 1.9 million Washington residents are now enrolled in the program, which offers comprehensive physical and behavioral health care coverage.

"Apple Health is meant to be there when people need health care the most," said HCA State Medicaid Director MaryAnne Lindeblad. "Due to the pandemic, many people are experiencing loss of income that may make them eligible for this program. We encourage those seeking free or low-cost health care coverage to visit our website to learn more."

The [state Office of Financial Management estimates](#) that due to the pandemic, the uninsured rate in our state rose from 6.7 percent in January 2020 to 13 percent in the spring, and was at about 8.8 percent on July 25.

See the [full press release](#) for more details.

TAKE CARE IF YOU TRAVEL

Travel increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19. If you need to venture afar, the CDC has some tips including researching your destination and route to develop a better understanding of your exposure risk.

Take care if you travel

Travel increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others, but if you need to venture afar, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [has some tips](#), including researching your destination and route to develop a better understanding of exposure risk. Meanwhile:

- Wear a [mask](#) to keep your nose and mouth covered when in public settings.

- Avoid close contact by [staying at least 6 feet](#) (about 2 arms' length) from anyone who is not from your household.
- [Wash your hands](#) often or use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol).
- Avoid contact with anyone who is sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



COVID-19 FAQ

CAN TRAVELING TO VISIT FRIENDS OR FAMILY SPREAD COVID-19?

Yes. Travel increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19. Before you travel, learn if COVID-19 is spreading in your local area or in any of the places you are going. Traveling to visit family may be especially dangerous if you or your loved ones are more likely to get very ill from COVID-19. People at higher risk for severe illness need to take extra precautions. Being separated from family is hard, but it can help keep them safe from getting sick.



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Snohomish County

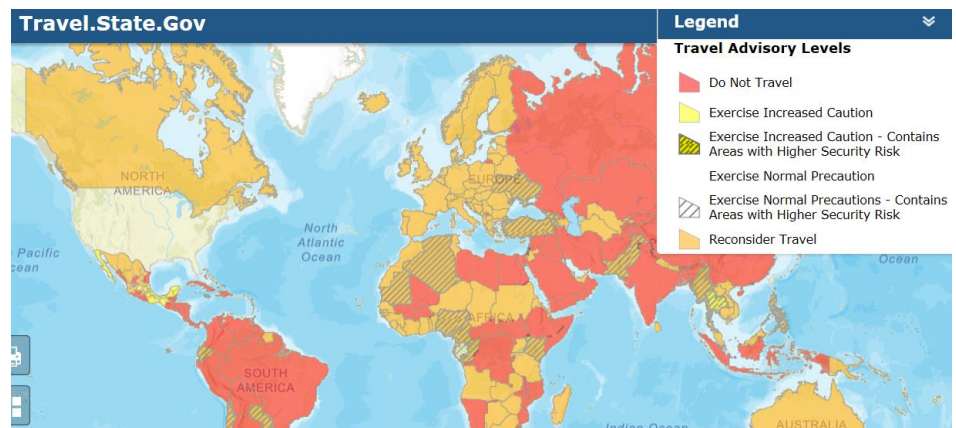
Source: CDC

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT LIFTS GLOBAL 'DO NOT TRAVEL' ADVISORY

The U.S. State Department lifted the global 'Do Not Travel' Advisory which was issued on March 19, 2020. The CDC still recommends against non-essential travel to more than 200 destinations worldwide due to the high COVID-19 risk.

U.S. State Department lifts global 'do not travel' advisory

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CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Data on case counts are available on the Snohomish Health District [website](#) and the Washington State Department of Health [dashboard](#).

ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Línea telefónica COVID-19 del condado de Snohomish: **425-388-7120**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211** for help.

Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of August 13, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 1:49 p.m.
Confirmed	5,688 (up 58 cases from 8/12)
Probable	723 (no increase from 8/12)
Deaths	197

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 1:49 p.m.
Arlington	275 (196 recovered)
Bothell*	470 (342 recovered)
Brier	30 (26 recovered)
Darrington	<5 (<5 recovered)
Edmonds	528 (422 recovered)
Everett	1,863 (1,394 recovered)
Gold Bar	12 (7 recovered)
Granite Falls	45 (36 recovered)
Index	0
Lake Stevens	292 (223 recovered)
Lynnwood	1,034 (804 recovered)
Marysville	552 (406 recovered)
Mill Creek	105 (75 recovered)
Monroe	232 (169 recovered)
Mountlake Terrace	183 (147 recovered)
Mukilteo	104 (84 recovered)
Snohomish	394 (275 recovered)
Stanwood	172 (137 recovered)
Sultan	29 (16 recovered)
Tulalip	46 (36 recovered)
Unknown/Other	<5 (<5 recovered)
Woodinville*	24 (21 recovered)
Woodway	13 (9 recovered)

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Unknown includes cases still under investigation. *Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.